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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/532,149	09/14/2005	Tomihisa Saito	KNI-204-A	6483
7590 Carrier Blackman & Associates Suite 100 24101 Novi Road Novi, MI 48375			EXAMINER WARD, JOHN A	
			ART UNIT 2885	PAPER NUMBER
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE		
3 MONTHS	02/23/2007	PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/532,149	SAITO ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	John A. Ward	2885	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 September 2005.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 04/22/2005.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because line 2 of the abstract uses the word "comprised". Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Tabata (US 6,858,837).

Regarding claim 1, Tabata discloses an illumination unit having diffusion means, having a casing 9, a transparent light guide 8, a first and second light source 7, locate at each end of the light guide (figure 4).

Regarding claim 2, Tabata discloses the divided portions of the casing are slidably engage with each other (column 4, lines 48-67).

Regarding claim 5, column 3, and lines 40-64 of Tabata teaches that the illuminating unit is for focusing reflective or transmitted light from a document on the line image sensor.

Regarding claim 6, Tabata discloses a line image sensor 1 located on an image sensor board or frame 2, and a rod lens array 5 located in the casing 9 (figure 1).

Regarding claim 9, Tabata shows in figure 4 how the light source abut against end surfaces of the light guide without gaps.

Claims 3, 7 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Tabata (US 6,858,837).

Regarding claim 3, Tabata discloses an illumination unit having diffusion means, having a casing 9, a transparent light guide 8, a first and second light source 7, locate at each end of the light guide (figure 4).

Regarding claim 7, Tabata discloses the divided portions of the casing are slidably engage with each other (column 4, lines 48-67).

Regarding claim 11, Tabata discloses a line image sensor 1 located on an image sensor board or frame 2, and a rod lens array 5 located in the casing 9 (figure 1),

column 3, and lines 40-64 of Tabata teaches that the illuminating unit is for focusing reflective or transmitted light from a document on the line image sensor.

Claims 4, 8 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Tabata (US 6,858,837).

Regarding claim 4, Tabata discloses an illumination unit having diffusion means, having a casing 9, a transparent light guide 8, a first and second light source 7, locate at each end of the light guide (figure 4).

Regarding claim 8, Tabata discloses the divided portions of the casing are slidably engage with each other (column 4, lines 48-67).

Regarding claim 12, Tabata discloses a line image sensor 1 located on an image sensor board or frame 2, and a rod lens array 5 located in the casing 9 (figure 1), column 3, and lines 40-64 of Tabata teaches that the illuminating unit is for focusing reflective or transmitted light from a document on the line image sensor.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Saito (US 6,017,130), Tabata (US 6,479,812), Hattori (US 6,563,609) and Uemura et al (US 6,902,309) each disclose a light emitting unit and illumination device.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John A. Ward whose telephone number is 571-272-2386. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jong (James) Suk Lee can be reached on 571-272-7044. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JAW
February 19, 2007



JOHN ANTHONY WARD
PRIMARY EXAMINER